

NEW SOUTH WALES.

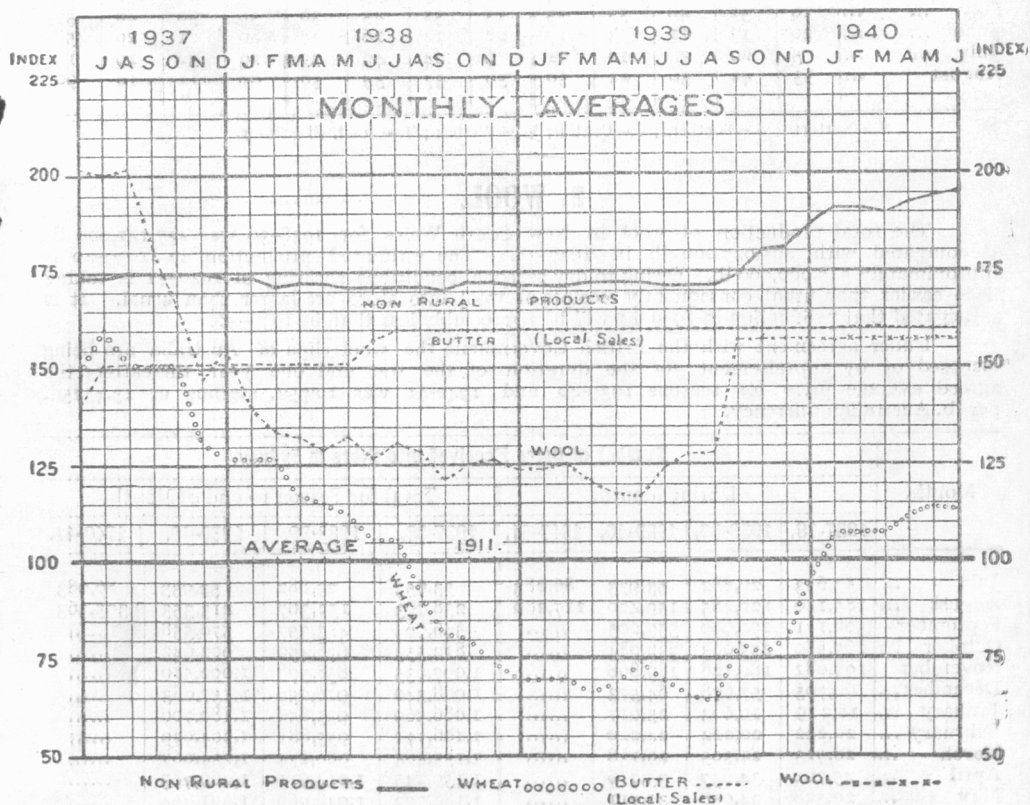
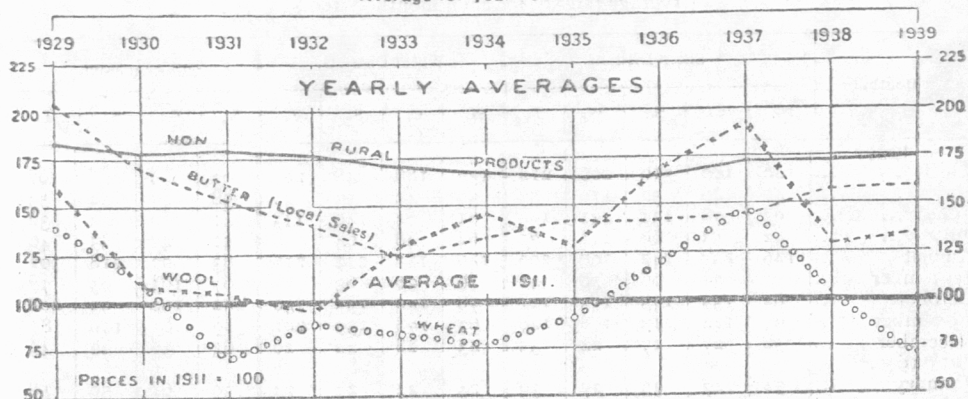
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 113. SEPTEMBER 25, 1940.

Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 24 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

* 53911—A

[Price, 3d.]

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1939.													
April ...	140	172	319	206	214	137	186	348	280	102	89	166	107
May ...	40	46	52	110	53	37	42	53	48	58	47	42	53
June ...	92	78	131	121	104	81	74	140	115	40	20	23	32
July ...	82	55	60	111	71	64	48	64	60	50	42	33	46
August ...	146	207	242	198	200	146	187	242	216	83	92	218	102
September ...	29	31	66	28	41	16	26	63	48	67	105	65	77
October ...	82	135	145	113	121	78	140	153	140	252	160	95	208
November ...	64	144	213	188	148	62	178	239	201	89	65	126	87
December ...	58	27	27	24	35	43	28	22	26	62	30	22	49
1940.													
January ...	32	27	33	27	30	24	24	24	24	59	61	50	58
February ...	95	8	12	17	34	87	5	9	18	65	18	20	47
March ...	128	18	5	32	46	111	15	5	21	132	88	6	104
April ...	105	208	271	250	204	122	209	255	227	66	107	161	88
May ...	18	31	48	35	33	13	32	43	36	39	39	40	39
June ...	20	13	21	3	17	22	14	16	17	80	21	29	58
July ...	5	20	38	18	21	9	24	42	33	12	32	19	18
August ...	33	42	38	22	36	38	37	35	36	96	111	16	90

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales for 1938-39 was 437,141,000 lb. as compared with 495,027,000 lb in 1937-38. The estimated production in 1939-40 is approximately 545,000,000 lb. Owing to dry seasonal conditions shearing in 1940-41 is taking place earlier than usual, consequently receipts of wool into store are larger than usual. It is anticipated that production in 1940-41 will be appreciably less than in 1939-40.

Under agreement with the British Government the wool clips of Australia are being disposed of by appraisalment for the duration of the war and one year thereafter; the agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 and 1940-41 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. per lb. Australian Currency.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
July ...	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083
August ...	185,140	122,485	159,420	217,280	238,793	152,367	213,353	303,363
September ...	308,171	270,990	357,205	.....	546,964	423,357	570,558	.....
October ...	265,589	255,093	332,084	.....	812,553	678,450	902,642	.....
November ...	195,082	180,128	189,868	.....	1,007,635	858,578	1,092,510	.....
December ...	60,705	57,678	64,573	.....	1,068,340	916,256	1,157,083	.....
January ...	18,229	19,603	23,617	.....	1,086,569	935,859	1,180,700	.....
February ...	20,202	20,022	24,229	.....	1,106,771	955,881	1,204,929	.....
March ...	26,713	24,393	29,138	.....	1,133,484	980,274	1,234,067	.....
April ...	25,761	34,637	35,716	.....	1,159,245	1,014,911	1,269,783	.....
May ...	29,528	34,058	31,711	.....	1,188,773	1,048,969	1,301,494	.....
June ...	19,615	29,138	44,240	.....	1,208,388	1,078,107	1,345,734	.....

NEW SOUTH WALES.

3. WHEAT.

In 1939-40 the total area cropped for grain in New South Wales was 4,392,000 acres and the wheat harvest 76,551,000 bushels as compared with 59,898,000 bushels in 1938-39.

Disposal of the harvest is controlled by the Australian Wheat Board, which administers compulsory pools.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the year ended June, 1940, was two per cent. less than in the previous season.

The exportable unsold surplus of Australian butter in 1939-40 and 1940-41 was purchased by the British Government at an agreed price for choicest butter of 137s. per cwt., f.o.b., Australian ports. The price of sales for local consumption has been fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. (wholesale), since June 8, 1938.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1932-33 to 1934-35	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
Thousand lb.					
Year ended 30th June ...	135,664	115,930	113,841	112,020	
July	5,877	4,161	4,437	6,585	5,047
August	6,380	4,842	4,887	6,355	
September	8,222	7,029	6,915	7,335	
October	13,333	9,315	10,842	10,164	
November	15,080	13,340	12,589	13,456	
December	16,254	15,168	11,423	13,822	
January	16,018	14,592	9,707	12,629	
February	14,529	14,019	10,826	10,602	
March	14,355	12,411	12,137	9,562	
April	11,084	9,088	11,880	9,165	
May	8,545	6,693	10,456	7,286	
June	5,987	5,272	7,742	5,059	

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1939 was 11,196,000 tons, compared with 9,571,000 tons in 1938 and 10,052,000 tons in 1937.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.*			
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Year ended 31st Dec.	7,494,069	7,138,605†	8,410,132	.....
January	563,457	552,240	567,189	501,952
February	545,155	640,100	727,526	581,988
March	588,277	672,461	806,565	235,430†
April	619,464	611,763	591,509	46,505†
May	579,773	711,875	757,928	367,404†
June	677,368	715,239	736,779	715,494
July	662,569	762,559	763,141	889,763
August	640,592	622,867	841,316	880,000‡
Eight months ended 31st August ...	4,876,655	5,289,104	5,791,953	4,218,536†‡

* Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways. † Affected by an industrial dispute. ‡ Approximate.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January...	2,616	2,766	2,738	3,212	212	231	231	235	786	928	950	1,004
February...	2,853	3,153	3,070	3,468	221	232	232	239	839	939	964	1,015
March...	3,147	3,570	3,406	3,562	222	232	229	239	839	949	961	1,024
April...	3,106	2,979	2,791	3,581	223	232	230	232	844	922	939	973
May...	2,938	3,241	3,242	3,498	222	233	230	231	853	961	954	964
June...	2,958	2,935	3,013	3,083	224	236	228	236	868	947	927	1,033
July...	3,064	3,029	2,961	3,512	227	238	228	241	871	975	950	1,072
August...	3,025	3,141	3,386		228	238	230		883	968	954	
September...	3,231	3,407	3,669		229	237	231		903	967	974	
October...	3,147	3,005	3,421		235	239	236		941	971	992	
November...	3,437	3,305	3,841		236	240	239		959	989	1,018	
December...	3,452	3,327	3,606		236	236	240		1,000	1,008	1,045	
Average (January - July)...	2,955	3,096	3,032	3,417	222	233	230	236	843	946	949	1,012

For the volume of monthly employment in factories, see Table 21.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of August.				June Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.		Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.	
			No.	Value.	No.	Value.		
	£	£		£		£		£
1937...	1,049,232	155,831	626	760,813	1,158	934,996		4,362,707
1938...	1,202,106	140,871	768	960,763	1,198	1,035,812		5,170,209
1939...	1,209,089	127,685	776	978,309	1,168	919,811		4,647,052
1940...	956,109	124,436	610	691,322	923	793,644		4,298,694

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. With few exceptions Shires do not supply returns.

More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 16 to 20 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for June Quarter, 1940.

In order to obtain more comprehensive statistics of building activity, particulars of the value of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental Authorities in New South Wales have been compiled since July, 1939. Details are:—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Additions.							
	Sydney and Suburbs.			New South Wales.				
	Permits for Private Buildings (as above).	Government Buildings.	Total Government and Private.	Permits for Private Buildings (as above).	Government Buildings.			Total Government and Private.
					Defence	Other.	Total.	
Thousand £.								
Year ended 30th June, 1940 ...	11,437	1,053	12,490	16,489	1,464	1,126	2,590	19,079
Month of August, 1939 ...	1,209	418†	1,627	*	2	430†	432	*
Month of August, 1940 ...	956	54	1,010	*	224	91	315	*
Two months ended August—								
1939 ...	2,731	455†	3,186	*	10	546†	556	*
1940 ...	2,004	228	2,232	*	1,069	158	1,227	*

* Not available.

† Including contract for extensions to General Post Office, Sydney—£411,000.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	137·22	151·21	161·87	191·83	192·97	200·29	
Seven Months ended July ...	76·42	82·95	91·37	108·29	110·64	108·97	114·48
January	9·87	10·85	11·27	13·74	14·21	13·24	16·33
February	10·37	10·82	12·72	14·64	15·73	16·54	14·64
March	10·92	12·39	13·11	15·43	15·79	15·78	16·97
April	11·25	12·00	13·45	16·45	16·83	15·79	17·88
May	11·64	13·14	13·44	16·50	16·87	17·46	14·85*
June	10·91	11·60	13·21	14·98	14·98	14·88	17·07
July	11·46	12·15	14·17	16·55	16·23	15·28	16·74
August	11·40	13·54	13·13	16·27	15·28	16·81	
September	12·25	12·84	13·77	16·28	17·45	19·44	
October	12·47	14·70	15·10	16·47	15·66	19·22	
November	11·99	13·20	14·52	17·35	16·93	17·53	
December	12·69	13·98	13·98	17·17	17·00	18·32	

*Rate of tax increased from 6% to 8½% from 3rd May, 1940.

Statistics of monthly employment in wholesale trade are shown in Table 21.

9. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year :—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
Year ended December—								
1936	303	304	+ 6·2	+ 4·7	+ 6·4	+ 4·9		
1937	304	303	+ 7·7	+ 4·8	+ 10·5	+ 3·7		
1938	303	303	+ 4·8	+ 5·2	+ 11·6	+ 5·0		
1939	303	303	+ 2·4	+ 2·0	+ 2·6	+ 0·9		
Jan.-July, 1940	175	177	+ 5·8	+ 17·7	+ 3·4	+ 1·2		
1939.								
October	25	25	+ 14·0	+ 4·1	+ 3·0	+ 1·3	+ 7·8	+ 2·6
November	26	26	+ 2·3	+ 5·2	+ 2·1	+ 1·7	+ 8·1	+ 2·0
December	25	24	+ 2·6	+ 7·8	Nil.	+ 1·7	+ 5·6	+ 1·6
1940.								
January	24	25	+ 7·8	+ 9·1	+ 4·7	+ 0·4	+ 3·8	+ 2·1
February	24	25	+ 10·6	+ 12·8	+ 6·5	+ 1·9	+ 6·2	+ 3·5
March	27	24	— 7·6	+ 19·2	+ 1·3	+ 2·1	+ 3·2	+ 4·2
April	22	25	+ 14·4	+ 19·6	+ 5·3	+ 1·5	+ 5·5	+ 4·3
May	27	27	+ 7·0	+ 19·2	+ 3·2	+ 1·2	+ 4·5	+ 3·2
June	25	24	— 2·1	+ 20·0	— 1·2	+ 0·3	+ 6·3	+ 2·4
July	26	27	+ 11·2	+ 23·5	+ 3·7	+ 0·5	+ 5·6	+ 2·0

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 21.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

10. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of July.			Year ended 30th June.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	1,555,334	1,182,843	372,491	19,486,116	13,759,988	5,726,128
1939 ...	1,541,621	1,171,621	370,000	19,146,441	14,542,980	4,603,461
1940 ...	2,010,782	1,203,000	807,782	19,954,851	14,646,934	5,307,917

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1938-39 was £5,360,000, exclusive of £1,214,983 sinking fund, exchange, etc.

	Month of July.		Year ended 30th June.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1938 ...	162,077	15,614	1,938,408	189,349
1939 ...	146,616	15,249	1,841,758	186,720
1940 ...	238,316	15,518	1,914,406	179,066

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

All fares and certain rates of freight were increased by ten per cent. from 1st March, 1939.

Operating results from March to May, 1940, were adversely affected by an industrial dispute in coal mines (idle from March 11 to May 17, 1940).

11. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of July—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1938 ...	321,624	41,635	28,013	23,011	3,907	1,914
1939 ...	326,587	39,724	27,902	24,508	3,264	2,003
1940 ...	345,674	51,554	29,503	25,574	5,414	2,114
Year ended 30th June—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1938 ...	4,013,424	689,401	347,497	281,300	46,267	23,228
1939 ...	4,082,285	622,327	351,264	292,049	44,868	23,935
1940 ...	4,167,636	651,595	352,688	300,273	48,827	24,683

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation (amounting in 1939-40 to £672,000) are not included as working expenses.

† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

12. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

(Including Commonwealth and State Government Vehicles.)

Class.	31st August, 1938.	1939.		1940.				
		31st August.	31st December.	31st March.	31st May.	30th June.	31st July.	31st August.
Cars	205,964	216,633	216,443	214,603	211,913	209,510	206,721	205,196
Lorries and Vans	73,638	77,639	77,539	76,448	76,109	75,590	74,968	74,577
Trailers	5,349	6,538	7,010	7,008	6,945	7,129	7,054	7,040
Tractors	875	1,102	1,193	1,201	1,206	1,209	1,201	1,168
Cycles—Solo ...	17,156	17,111	16,384	15,785	15,404	15,283	15,059	14,995
Cycles—Side-car	6,919	6,884	6,625	6,447	6,326	6,269	6,181	6,132
Omnibuses	703	794	825	825	820	823	829	840
Taxi-cabs	1,231	1,331	1,341	1,352	1,354	1,355	1,356	1,356
Traders' Plates	1,139	1,187	1,194	1,084	1,081	1,066	1,042	1,034
Total	312,974	329,219	328,554	324,753	321,158	318,234	314,411	312,338

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
1936	457	414	393	375	321	301	137	150	160	157	174	163
1937	526	452	523	497	451	414	138	162	187	218	202	210
1938	505	478	487	383	357	340	177	182	207	155	156	147
1939	435	393	417	376	395	322	131	130	151	141	133	146
1940	268	243	176	115	63	88	111	114	103	70	60	53

* Excluding trailers.

13. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.		1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
March ... ..	...	304,954	345,056	395,503	427,964	447,310
April ... ..	...	307,817	348,384	397,911	428,848	451,218
May ... ..	...	311,547	352,907	400,652	431,149	455,162
June ... ..	...	315,731	358,292	403,978	433,029	458,155
July ... ..	...	322,625	364,696	405,244	433,972	474,228
August ... ..	...	327,232	370,289	414,747	431,029	475,761

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).†

As at June 30th.†	Amount of Deposits.	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1938.	1939.	1940.
	£		£	£	£
1929	85,727,514	January ...	83,282,881*	86,824,101*	86,715,917*
1930	82,465,430	February ...	83,697,582*	86,591,320*	87,167,025*
1931	69,810,769	March ...	83,989,040	86,269,445	86,758,977
1932	71,647,869	April ...	84,211,474*	86,222,208*	87,055,576*
1933	72,307,685	May ...	84,310,498*	86,097,258*	85,179,395*
1934	75,714,070	June ...	86,015,685†	87,473,789†	82,110,773*†
1935	77,906,402	July ...	85,952,874*	87,201,203*	82,134,989*
1936	79,999,948	August ...	86,309,959*	86,995,281*	83,073,876*
1937	81,952,399	September ...	86,436,219	86,557,014	...
1938	86,015,685	October ...	86,763,372*	86,751,263*	...
1939	87,473,789	November ...	86,341,441*	86,684,205*	...
		December ...	86,645,354	86,581,054	...

* Approximate.

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

15. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

June Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Advances.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	319,274	33,520	19,395	22,070	284,101
1939 ...	321,326	30,455	25,041	22,257	290,776
1940 ...	350,497	38,986	41,760	41,857	286,784

* Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

June Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	62,922	50,474	113,396	118,937	5,541
1939 ...	64,668	51,381	116,049	122,219	6,170
1940 ...	66,276	60,391	126,667	117,910	(-) 8,757

(—) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	59.5	56.9	66.4	76.7	67.5	66.5	82.7	78	75	89	101	97	98	110
February...	59.3	59.7	69.2	77.4	75.6	75.5	88.9	77	75	86	101	96	96	110
March ...	58.8	57.7	69.9	77.2	82.6	80.5	87.8	75	74	85	98	95	93	107
April ...	52.8	61.3	63.5	80.6	75.7	70.7	84.3	74	78	87	103	102	98	111
May ...	61.7	64.9	68.4	76.1	82.9	82.0	90.2	74	79	86	100	103	100	111
June ...	72.1	73.7	69.5	79.2	86.8	80.3	94.5	78	86	87	103	106	101	115
July ...	54.8	61.2	65.1	75.0	70.5	71.2	94.6	76	83	85	97	101	98	116
August ...	47.8	59.6	61.9	70.0	72.9	74.9	83.6	73	84	86	98	101	99	118
September	61.7	62.5	68.1	79.8	77.6	74.9		73	82	87	101	99	99	
October ...	63.7	72.2	76.6	80.1	79.5	78.0		76	85	91	101	101	100	
November	63.2	75.1	79.7	81.3	82.7	86.1		80	89	96	103	102	102	
December	60.7	71.2	84.3	83.9	88.1	91.7		77	90	99	101	102	106	
Year ...	716.1	776.0	842.6	937.3	942.4	932.3		76	82	89	101	101	100	

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

18. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered * Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans.† Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.					Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.—Per annum.			
1935	46	30	18	4	2	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1936	39	37	18	4	2	3 9 7	3 10 1	3 13 9	3 11 1
1937	32	39	24	3	2	3 16 10	3 17 6	3 18 9	3 17 8
1938	30	38	25	5	2	3 16 4	3 17 5	3 18 1	3 17 4
1939	18	34	37	8	3	3 14 5	3 15 0	3 15 10	3 15 0
						3 17 9	3 18 4	3 18 4	3 18 1
1940-February	17	31	39	10	3	3 12 4	3 12 10	3 12 7	3 12 7
March	16	33	38	10	3	3 10 10	3 12 0	3 12 5	3 11 8
April	13	36	37	11	3	3 5 10	3 7 6	3 9 5	3 7 5
May	15	37	36	9	3	3 5 1	3 6 5	3 8 11	3 6 9
June	14	37	38	8	3	3 5 8	3 8 1	3 8 6	3 7 4
July	13	40	37	7	3	3 5 9	3 7 9	3 8 8	3 7 3
August	15	39	36	7	3	3 5 7	3 7 3	3 8 1	3 6 10

* Interest rates on first mortgages are the average for the three months ended in the month shown.

† Minimum prices for sales of Consolidated Loans on Stock Exchanges in Australia were fixed on 15th June, 1940.

19. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1936.†	1937.	1938.†	1939.†	1940.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	2,153	2,954	2,383	2,449	1,884	1,241	1,861	1,771	1,591	1,480
February ...	2,504	2,596	3,285	2,438	2,524	1,200	1,688	1,868	1,841	1,428
March ...	3,090	2,992	3,280	3,023	2,464	3,030	2,134	2,036	2,225	1,686
April ...	3,033	2,792	2,770	2,245	2,392	1,389	1,607	2,359	2,025	1,560
May ...	2,317	2,716	2,989	3,090	2,908	1,376	1,850	2,727	2,112	1,449
June ...	2,839	2,879	2,808	2,613	2,464	1,756	1,842	2,604	1,658	1,305
July ...	3,288	4,692	2,804	2,919	3,217	1,668	2,550	2,285	1,950	1,747
August ...	2,787	2,925	2,462	3,068	2,259	1,686	1,771	2,184	2,770	1,099
September ...	2,815	2,665	3,079	2,934		1,563	1,593	2,085	1,501	
October ...	2,508	3,079	3,111	2,330		2,270	2,241	2,153	1,713	
November ...	3,212	3,478	2,671	2,381		1,504	2,694	2,565	1,702	
December ...	2,940	3,585	2,797	2,067		1,831	1,980	2,343	1,344	
Year ...	33,546	37,353	37,419	32,157		20,511†	23,811	26,967†	22,444†	
Eight Months ended 31st August ...	22,071	24,546	25,761	22,445	20,112	13,346	15,303	17,834	16,172	11,754

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In the eight months ended 31st August, 1940, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security, amounted to £9,040,000 as compared with £14,607,000 and £15,700,000 in the corresponding period of 1939 and 1938 respectively.

20. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of August.			Eight Months ended 31st August.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	138,108	87,534	127,651	1,638,961	2,285,273	1,236,028
1939 ...	142,881	109,939	127,016	1,662,535	2,479,151	1,095,533
1940 ...	127,255	172,486	77,210	1,568,764	2,652,214	1,039,135

See note under Table 19.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21.—EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE WEEK OF MONTH.)

Month.	Total in Employment. (a)	Total in Private Employment.	Total Employed in Factories.	Number Employed by Employers with 10 or more Employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail Trade.	Wholesale Trade.	Offices and Commerce.
1933—June (b) ...	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1938—July ...	838,622	687,864	225,200	21,184	53,112	25,169	26,166
August ...	834,572	684,897	229,000	20,990	51,323	25,320	26,303
1939—May ...	836,182	683,203	229,400	21,145	51,951	25,701	27,323
June ...	831,555	678,577	229,000	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
July ...	833,331	681,153	224,600(c)	21,176	52,833	25,356	26,872
August ...	831,806	680,300	224,700(c)	21,679	51,253	25,420	27,060
1940—May (d)	837,120(e)	682,538(e)	225,700(c)	20,559(e)	51,799	25,732	28,028
June (d)	856,446	700,155	234,500(c)	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,714
July (d)	865,112	708,294	239,900(c)	21,110	52,112	25,891	28,100
August (d)	872,026	714,688	243,900(c)	21,017	51,728	25,924	29,100

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers.

(b) Census of 30th June.

(c) Subject to revision.

(d) Excluding men in the Forces who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

(e) Includes approximately 14,000 mine employees idle between 11th March and 17th May, owing to an industrial dispute.

22.—INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

The following indexes relate to total employment and unemployment in New South Wales. Owing to the incidence of enlistments and the repercussions of the industrial dispute in coal mines, it is not possible to compile an index of employment and unemployment for May, 1940, and later months, until further data are obtained.

Middle of Month.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
	(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers as employed.		(b) Excluding part-time relief workers from employed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1933—June Census ...	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1938—April ...	96.0	4.0	94.9	5.1
May ...	95.8	4.2	94.8	5.2
1939—April ...	94.6	5.4	93.5	6.5
May ...	94.3	5.7	93.3	6.7
1940—April ...	94.0	6.0	93.3	6.7

NOTES.—(1) The index of employment is the ratio of number in employment (first column of Table 21) to estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by adjusting the census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes in number in employment and number estimated to be available for employment.

(2) "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total of wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years, separate calculations being made for the sexes, and allowance made for net immigration. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December. Since the outbreak of war, adjustment is due on account of enlistments in naval, military and air forces, and on account of women and adolescents (not formerly of the wage-earning group), who have entered employment. Data for such adjustments are being sought.

(3) At the census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1.8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the above indexes which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

(4) The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available.

23. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
January ...	100	103	101	96	93	98	100	110	114	119	125	136
February ...	100	105	98	97	95	97	100	112	115	122	125	135
March ...	100	102	101	97	95	98	99	111	115	121	130	130
April ...	100	104	100	96	96	96	101	110	119	119	125	137
May ...	100	106	100	94	95	97	100	110	117	122	128	128
June ...	100	103	100	97	99	97	103	114	124	127	131	135
July ...	100	105	99	96	97	96	100	112	122	126	134	139
August	100	106	100	94	97	101	103	107	120	128	135	137
September	100	108	98	94	97	99	101	113	118	123	134	
October	100	109	97	94	96	99	104	113	119	121	135	
November	100	109	96	95	97	103	104	116	124	124	136	
December	100	105	98	97	99	101	106	116	122	124	131	
Year	100	105	99	96	96	98	102	112	119	123	131	

24. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural.¶	100 Com- modities Average.
1911 ...	100	100	100	100	100
1929 ...	162	140	204	184	186
1931 ...	105	70	154	180	155
1932 ...	96	88	140	177	152
1933 ...	127	82	124	172	151
1934 ...	147	77	133	167	150
1935 ...	128	92	142	165	153
1936 ...	168	120	142	165	156
1937 ...	193	148	146	173	168
1938 ...	129	101	157	172	168
1939 ...	135	73	160	175	164
1939—July ...	128	66	160	172	159
August ...	128	64	160	172	159
September ...	158½	79	160	174	165
October ...	158½	76	160	180	167
November ...	158½	80	160	181	164
December ...	158½	97	160	187	170
1940—January ...	158½	108	160	192	172
February ...	158½	108	160	192	173
March ...	158½	108	160	191	174
April ...	158½	112	160	193	178
May ...	158½	114	160	194	179
June ...	158½	114	160	196	179
July ...	158½	114	160	196	177
August ...	158½	113	160	196	181

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Parities in January, 1929=100 in all cases.

Average Rates of Exchange.‡		
Australia on London.	London on New York.	Australia on New York.
100	...	...
102	100	102
128	107	140
125	139	174
125	115	143
125	97	120
125	99	124
125	98	122
125	98	123
125	99	124
125	110	137
125	104	130
125	106	132
125	120	150
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151

‡ Approximate; the above table expresses in the form of an index the amount of currency of the country first mentioned required to buy a fixed quantity of the second named country's currency.

§ Based on price paid by British Government for the Australian clip.

¶ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

25. WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS OVERSEA.

	Year 1938.	Year 1939.	1939.			1940.						
			Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)...	101'4	102'8	110'9	118'6	122'3	125'3	128'3	128'8	132'2	133'7	134'6	...
United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100) ...	81'2	80'9	83'5	84'1	85'6	85'8	84'6	84'2	84'4	83'8	82'5	81'9*

*The average for the first week of August, 1940, was 81'0.

26. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Copper (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1928	2	2'79	19 11 7	26 5 8	68 6 2	219 7 5	4 4 11	...	...	...	...	...
1929	2	0'57	21 14 5	25 19 5	84 10 11	200 11 5	4 4 11	...	...	...	...	...
1938	2	0'14	17 12 11	19 12 10	55 15 2	228 11 10	8 17 2	...	...	...	...	...
1939	2	1'42	17 12 1	19 15 3	59 15 1	268 3 6	9 14 4	...	...	...	...	...
1940—February	2	2'17	19 0 9	21 6 9	60 12 6	280 10 1	10 13 2	...	...	...	...	...
March	2	0'78	19 7 1	21 16 6	60 12 6	287 3 0	10 13 3	...	...	...	...	...
April	2	1'89	18 10 9	21 17 9	60 12 6	285 13 6	10 13 3	...	...	...	...	...
May	2	2'18	18 12 8	21 17 9	60 12 6	301 18 7	10 13 3	...	...	...	...	...
June	2	3'19	18 11 9	24 5 8	60 12 6	316 10 1	10 13 0	...	...	...	...	...
July	2	2'64	18 10 2	28 5 8	60 12 6	301 3 5	10 11 0	...	...	...	...	...

27. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929	179'3	183'8	129'4	174'1	243'5	174'4	172'6
Sept., 1931	72'3	60'2	87'9	75'2	121'3	74'4	77'2
Mar., 1937	213'8	203'8	181'0	169'2	281'2	190'4	200'5
1940—Jan. ...	229'0	174'0	151'9	131'8	269'9	181'6	195'2
Mar.	216'9	167'2	141'5	131'8	263'4	173'7	186'2
Apl.	217'2	165'6	137'3	132'8	260'7	172'9	187'3
May	210'3	159'5	137'9	128'3	254'5	168'1	182'0
June	186'8	138'4	128'6	109'8	233'3	150'6	160'0
July	191'9	138'1	128'5	104'8	225'3	150'9	162'3
August	197'3	149'9	131'1	112'2	226'5	155'4	168'2

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April, 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st March, 1940, was 2,775,871 or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1939, 1,302,890).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

25th September, 1940.